



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 26, 1999
VOL. 46 NO. 141

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices into the major terminal markets were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Retail demand was light. However, food service movement was reported as fairly good especially around major shopping areas. Floor stocks were adequate, although smaller sizes were available in the Eastern region. Some processing plants were not running Friday or Saturday. In the parts structure, supplies of breast items and dark meat were usually sufficient, wings were well balanced to short. Overall, inquiry was light to good with best movement noted on wings. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 11/29-12/04/99 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)			COMPOSITE	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	51.00-53.00	48.50-64.00	53.63	24
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	63.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	64.00	—		
New York	57.00-60.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	64.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	58.00-59.50	46.50-62.00	58.15	77

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 58.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
452	56.50-60.50	58.43
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	136.50	3,042
BREASTS - WHOLE	73.50	1,368
THIGH MEAT - B/S	64.50	267
LEG QUARTERS	20.50	6,038
WINGS	73.00	2,092

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was generally steady. Demand was seasonal, but fairly active for post holiday business. Supplies were well cleared, due in part to holiday down time. Processing schedules were less than normal. In the parts structure, wings were in the best position with offering mostly short of a good inquiry. Balance of parts were adequate with fair movement reported. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The preliminary majority prices were unchanged from last Friday's levels. Trade sentiment was generally steady. Offerings were adequate. Some processors continued to work reduced slaughter schedules. Buying activity was light but expected to improve along with first of the month interest. Demand was moderate overall, best for parts. Dealers anticipated moderate week-end carryovers.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading were unchanged into Chicago and TFEWR elsewhere from Monday's final. Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady. Offerings were limited for the light buyer interest. Retail and food service movement was slow to light, except in Chicago demand was fair to fairly good following the Thanksgiving holiday. Floor stocks were adequate to ample with sizes in a desirable range. In the parts complex, wings were adequate and clearing, all other items were at least adequate and slow to clear. Trade sentiment was fully steady on wings and steady to barely steady on the balance.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready to-cook whole broiler/fryers was generally fair with most buyers centering on other holiday items. Offerings varied according to size with 3 pound and heavier sizes in close balance, smaller sizes were readily available. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally quiet. The market tone was fully steady on heavier sizes, barely steady on the smaller sizes. In the parts complex, wings were in close balance and clearing, all other items were at least adequate for limited trade needs.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fairly good entering the weekend on the generally well balanced supply of over 3 pound sizes. Smaller sizes were readily available and were often noted as slow in clearing. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy, but were mostly light to desirable. Processing schedules were irregular and light in total. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 60 to 72 cents. Trade sentiment remained about steady. Wings cleared to a good demand. Inquiry for bone-in breasts increased; supplies were adequate. Boneless skinless breasts were available.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA. **BRANDED U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE	61-76
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	63.91
NO. OF BOXES	8,167
CUMULATIVE	11/22/99-11/26/99 63.16
	11/23/98-11/27/98 62.05
NO. OF BOXES	11/22/99-11/26/99 27,134
	11/23/98-11/27/98 29,396

*5 of 8 plants reporting.

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

ITEM	POUNDS			WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY		POUNDS (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	140	135.00-145.50	135-140	136.80	1,214	133.36
TENDERLOINS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				240	162.58
BREAST - LINE RUN	67	66.00-78.00	67-68	67.14	281	68.21
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				245	54.21
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				147	24.20
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	139	17.00-19.00	17-18	17.85	1,107	16.64
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	648	19.00-22.00	19-20	19.88	3,684	19.77
WINGS (WHOLE)	46	66.50-70.00	67-68	68.65	183	68.86
WINGS (CUT)	210	80.00-85.00	82-84	83.81	2,002	83.60
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TFEWR	
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TFEWR	
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				193	66.99

 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR NOVEMBER 26, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
35.00 - 38.50	36.68	35.42

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest was very quiet following the holiday. Offerings were sufficient for trade needs with wings in short supply. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair with scattered retail feature activity noted. The market tone was fully steady for wings, breast items were barely steady.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*				WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-135		141.67	208,240	134.08	1,478,079
TENDERLOINS	130		135.00	67,680	133.03	257,700
BREAST - WITH RIBS	61-62		70.49	155,200	70.34	646,360
BREAST - LINE RUN	61		62.84	132,280	62.26	535,400
LEGS	26-27		30.88	131,480	30.02	753,205
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17		19.16	182,840	19.10	1,046,086
DRUMSTICKS	34-35		30.84	80,920	31.36	362,478
THIGHS	19-20		29.48	76,960	28.63	278,664
B/S THIGHS	70-71		77.00	25,320	73.80	120,270
WINGS (WHOLE)	71-72		81.53	182,280	80.29	713,954
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		12.00	49,440	12.06	172,480
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	45-50		49.72	49,640	50.11	150,382
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60		60.05	66,560	59.62	193,320

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		AVG WTS	
	11/26	11/25	11/24	11/23	11/24	11/23	11/19	11/17
ALA	2,486	0	3,898	3,820	4.81	5.00	3,940	5.08
ARK	2,707	0	5,224	4,993	4.67	4.87	5,443	4.75
DELMARVA	2,199	0	2,473	2,374	5.15	5.13	1,883	5.07
KY-LA-TN	1,055	0	1,806	1,769	4.41	4.41	1,516	4.41
MISS	1,616	0	2,781	2,561	4.93	4.98	2,995	5.12
NC	2,540	0	2,542	2,100	5.82	5.85	2,555	5.71
TEXAS	1,955	0	2,096	2,211	4.55	4.71	2,191	4.63
TOTAL	14,558	0	18,256	19,828	4.85	4.99	20,523	4.97
MON-FRI	75,443(A)						98,827(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 26-Nov and 27-Nov-99 is estimated to be 21,780,000 down 29.28 percent from a week ago and down 4.2 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,797,000; last year 22,725,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 27-Nov-99 is estimated to be 110,560,000 head down 24.0 percent from a week ago, and down 0.8 percent from a year ago

(Last week 145,519,000 Last year 111,417,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY,
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	79-82
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	82-88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	92-97
	DRY PACK	107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	98
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Nov. 13, 1999 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
	-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	24,795	28,287	34,016
Avg Weight	3.77	4.76	6.02
% of total /1	28%	32%	39%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	35,651	35,805	39,580
Avg Weight	3.82	4.88	6.16
% of total /1	32%	32%	36%
Same week, yr ago /2	28,294	35,866	40,097
Avg Weight	3.87	4.79	6.05
% of total /1	27%	34%	38%
To date/1999	1,431,471	1,405,107	1,838,808
To date/1998	1,530,642	1,635,454	1,341,902

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 20-Nov-99 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	145,519(A)	2,080	1,512	3,592	469
AVGWT	4.97	3.42	7.98	5.34	6.74
LAST WEEK	148,379	1,848	1,550	3,398	406
YR AGO	147,385	1,692	1,450	3,142	501
AVGWT	4.98	3.50	7.85	5.52	6.55
TO-DATE/1999	6,977,536	95,265	65,461	160,726	20,304
TO-DATE/1998	6,737,480	92,872	58,184	151,056	20,767

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 140.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 147.3 million head or 6.8 million head more than or 105 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY-- DATE OF AUCTION NOV 23, 1999

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

	RANGE	RANGE
Banty Hens	1.50 - 3.25ea.	Pekin Ducks .40 - .54
Banty Roosters	2.00 - 5.50ea.	Pigeons 1.75 - 2.35ea.
Bunnies	1.00 - 3.50ea.	Pullets 4-6 .40 - .86
Chukars	1.75 - 2.35ea.	Rabbits 4-6 .80 - 1.18
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.50 - .82	Rabbits 7-11 .80 - 1.10
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.40 - .92	Red Fowl 4-4.5 .30 - .54
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.50 - .94	Red Fowl 5-6 .50 - .84
Geese 9-14	.30 - .54	Silkie 2.50 - 3.25ea.
Guinea Fowl	2.00 - 2.55	White Pigeons 2.10 - 2.50ea.
Guinea Pigs	4.00 - 6.00ea.	
Kid Goats	42.00 - 48.00ea.	
Leghorn Hens	.20 - .28	
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.50 - .66	
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.50 - .62	

Total Coops Sold 608

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 22-NOV-99

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	59-60	
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-83	71-75
12 OZ.	60.48-69.66	
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14	
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43	

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices ended the week unchanged.

Market tone was steady. Demand was mostly good. Sizes were desirable. Slaughter schedules were reduced this week for the holiday. Prices to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in legs at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15. PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 22-NOV-99

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
OCTOBER 16	155.2	148.5	105	5.08
23	155.9	148.3	105	5.06
30	153.9	148.5	104	4.97
NOVEMBER 6	156.6	148.3	106	5.12
13	150.2	144.2	104	5.02
20	147.3	140.5	105	4.97
YEAR TO DATE	7063.9	6971.5	101	
NOVEMBER 27		140.3		
DECEMBER 4		143.6		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 20-Nov-99

IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 3,971 HD, 19,296 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 706 lbs., Heavy Hens 40 HD, 328 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	11/27/99	11/20/99	%CHG	11/28/98	%CHG
Broilers	110,560	*145,519	-24	*111,417	-01
Cattle	581	676	-14	*592	-02
Hogs	1,778	2,021	-12	*1,857	-04

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices ranged unchanged to lower on light to fair trading when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mixed but fairly good. Floor stocks were clearing at most locations. Trade sentiment ranged from mostly steady to fully steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

23-26.25 MAJORITY

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

32-36 MAJORITY 34.25-35 CENTS

PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

26-27 MAJORITY

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

31-37 MAJORITY 36.25-37

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was only fair as offerings were generally fully adequate to ample at most locations. Processing schedules for next week were normal. The undertone was steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate but not aggressive for adequate offerings. Processing schedules for next week were normal. The undertone was mostly steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Demand was light to moderate for the adequate to fully adequate offerings of spent fowl. Trade sentiment steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants worked reduced holiday schedules. Offerings ample.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(2)
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0	(1)
Eastern Light	0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0-.5	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT